



NEWS NUGGETS

Friday, March 8, 2019

Winter Retreat Engages Young Adults in Bible Study and Fun in the Snow »

Twenty-three young adults converged at a cabin in Silverthorne, Colorado for the Young Adult Winter Retreat sponsored by the RMC Youth Department.

Friday night saw Cassie Ahrens-Learned leading in worship songs, followed by RMC youth leader Kiefer Dooley, who engaged the group in a lively discussion on the parable of the lost sheep found in the Gospel of Luke 15. In a nearly 90-minute consideration of the parable, young adults became passionate about its various details and applications.

With the option of hanging out at the cabin or joining Summit Fellowship in Copper Mountain on Sabbath, participants who stayed at the cabin, engaged in various




small group Bible studies and enjoyed the breathtaking views and crisp mountain air with sledding, snow shoeing, and zip lining in the four feet of fluffy snow in the cabin's backyard. Those that attended Summit Fellowship enjoyed music led by Cassie Ahrens-Learned and Shannon Werner. Kiefer Dooley presented the spoken word on the importance of being 100 percent truthful with others and ourselves, emphasizing that a half truth is still a lie.

Sabbath evening vespers consisted of more worship songs followed by a discussion on the second parable in Luke 15 of

"We are the Bibles the world is reading; we are the creeds the world is needing; we are the sermons the world is heeding."

-- Billy Graham

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the lost coin. After vespers, the cabin was filled with laughter and fun as young adults engaged in such games as Telestrations and Catch Phrase.

Ski enthusiasts enjoyed an early Sunday morning breakfast before hitting the slopes. Others, preferring additional rest and relaxation, enjoyed a later, leisurely breakfast.

The final worship discussion focused on "Home," the RMC Youth Department theme for 2019, discussing the third parable in Luke 15 on the two sons. Discussion highlights included observations on how the younger son made a physical pigpen out of the Father's inheritance by wasting it on everything meaningless in life. Meanwhile, the older son made a pigpen out of the Father's estate by trying to earn what was already given him--sonship--and by having a rotten and resentful attitude toward his returned brother instead of a celebratory attitude like the Father.

The young adults left the retreat rejuvenated and spiritually refreshed, with many expressing their gratitude for the retreat, saying it provided a great environment for rest, relaxation, reflection and growing together with other young adults in a deeper and more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.

— Brent Learned; photo by Andre Mendez

Encounter Curriculum Provides Multiple Venues for Developing Relationship with Jesus »

Creating an archaeological dig, artistically interpreting Bible verses, paddling in lifeboats, and Bible story reenactments are just a few of the activities students are doing in the new Encounter Adventist Bible curriculum. The new curriculum has a transitional planning framework that includes content learning, engaged learning, heart and soul learning, and life learning with celebratory lessons mixed in.



Encounter creates a classroom setting where students can discover truths straight from the Bible (their only textbook), their personal relationship with Jesus Christ is nurtured, and the students are encouraged to share and celebrate that



Upcoming Events

Staff Meeting

March 12

NAD Treasurers Council

March 27 - 28

Town Hall Meeting -- Casper Church

March 30

Town Hall Meeting -- Denver South Church

March 31

Wyoming Taskforce Meeting

March 31

Staff Meeting

April 2

RMC Women's Retreat Wyoming

April 6-7

Town Hall Meeting -- Grand Junction

April 6

Town Hall Meeting -- Pinon Hills Church

April 7

Executive Committee

April 9

Town Hall Meeting -- Campion Church

April 13

Town Hall Meeting -- Colorado Spr Central Church

April 14

GVR Board

knowledge with others.

In addition, Encounter not only has spiritual goals for its students, but it also encourages critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills—better known as the four Cs of education.

“The primary purpose of the Adventist Encounter Curriculum is for all our students, both elementary and secondary, to have a solid, deep, and personal knowledge of the truths of the Bible (Seventh-day Adventist fundamental beliefs); to respond to Christ’s invitation to live in a lifelong, vibrant relationship with Him; and to be passionate about the salvation of others,” states the Encounter website.

“Encounter is a discipleship program that is so needed in our current culture. I am seeing students grow in their knowledge of the Bible and discovering a relationship with their Savior at a deeper level than ever before. I can’t say enough good things about this program,” said Michelle Velbis, principal of the Daystar Christian School in Pueblo, Colorado.

“I really love Bible verses better now, because Mrs. Velbis has us draw and be creative with them. Because of this I now see God as a more beautiful person,” said 8th grader, Audra Bennett.



Micah Black, a 3rd grader at Daystar said, “I liked the lesson about Elijah because it made me feel closer to God.”

Another 8th grader, Luke Velbis, summed it up well, “I’ve enjoyed learning about how we can trust God, go to God, and lead others to God.”

After doing a lesson on heaven, Velbis’ students drew themselves sitting on Jesus’ lap or kneeling beside Him. “The fact that they felt that comfortable and confident in their relationship with Him was evidence to me that they understand God’s amazing love for them. As a teacher, that is such a comfort and praise!”

“Ultimately, Encounter seeks to obey the Three Angel’s Message of Revelation 14—a call for people to stand in these last days in a real relationship with God, to be aroused from their apathy and worship our Creator alone. Encounter seeks

April 16

MAUC Presidents Council Board

April 17-18

Property & Trust Committee

April 17

NAD Human Resource and Secretariat Conference

April 21-23

Native American Camp Meeting

April 27-28

RMC Women's Retreat -- GVR

April 26-28

INTEL Class

May 3 - 4

Union College Graduation Weekend

May 4 - 5

Staff Meeting

May 7

Hispanic Music Festival -- FEJA

May 18

Mile High Academy Graduation

May 25, 8:30 p.m.

Campion Academy Graduation

May 26, 10 a.m.

INTEL Class

May 31 - June 1

Staff Meeting

June 7

to build for eternity.” For more information, go to encounter.adventisteducation.com.

-- Michelle Velbis; text and photos

Cheyenne School Visited by Wyoming Secretary of State »

Wyoming Secretary of State Ed Buchanan visited Cheyenne’s Laura E. Mason Christian Academy on Tuesday, February 20, for Read Across America Week. Students interviewed Buchanan as they worked on earning their Pathfinder citizenship honor and to fulfill an assignment for their Social Studies curriculum. Principal Nancy Arias and Pathfinder leader Kara Jagitsch enjoyed observing the students.



During his visit, Ed Buchanan, discussed his role in state government, the closing days of the Wyoming Legislature, and how education helped him become Wyoming’s second ranking statewide elected official.

At the end of Buchanan's visit, the school's Chime Choir, directed by Principal Nancy Arias, closed the meeting by providing a flawless performance of two of their favorite selections.

-- Tom Cowan; photo by Will Dineen

Nine Things I Wish I Had Known Before I Was a Senior »

Senior year, in popular opinion, is the best year, filled with many exciting events such as last banquets, last tournaments, and graduation. Around this time of year, ACT scores are stressed about, college applications are sent in, and all the seniors you know are getting themselves prepared to move onto a new era in their lives.



Story Guidelines: We want to share your news! »

News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information expressing our church life. Every church, every family, every individual has a story to tell. We are inviting pastors and secretaries of churches and institutions within the Rocky Mountain Conference to share with us relevant information – about developments, issues, notable events, as well as experiences of church members.

Please email your story to nuggets@rmcsda.org so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory. When submitting your story, please include the following: the Ws (who, what, where, when, why...also how), a personal quote, a photo and the name of the photographer. Please consider time constraints and always send in fresh new stories instead of outdated ones. Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.



You might think, “Those seniors just really have it together. They’re going to college and accomplishing big things, SO PUT TOGETHER.” Right? Haha. Wrong. You’d think after all that learning and maturing, we’d have it figured out. We may not be as put together as we need to be, but we have learned a few things along the way. To help you out, here are nine things we wish we would have known before we were seniors:

1. **TIME MANAGEMENT:** “Well what I wish I knew before I was a senior was that time is everything and if you don’t know how to manage it correctly it will affect senior year badly. Even if you think you have a lot of time on your hands, remember that it can always be used productively.” –*Jacqueline Morales, 3-year senior*
2. **THE ENVIRONMENT:** “I wish I would’ve known how much different of an environment this was going to be because I’ve gone to public school my whole life so it was a little bit hard to adjust to at first.” –*Stephanie Salinas, 4-year senior*
3. **DON’T WAIT TO LEARN ABOUT COLLEGE:** “I wish I knew more about college. I could have gotten more scholarships if I had studied harder for the ACT before my senior year. I met a lot of sophomores and juniors during college tours and I realized I should have started visiting colleges and looking for the right college for me. You know I didn’t have to wait until my senior year at all.” –*Kaname Kaneiwa, 4-year senior*
4. **SLEEP IS IMPORTANT:** “Definitely better sleeping habits. ‘Cause staying up late wrecks you - especially during finals or anything else.” –*Carlos Aguiñaga, 2-year senior*
5. **LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD ‘NO’:** “You don’t have to do everything people ask you to. Sometimes it’s okay to say no.” –*Tristan Smith, 2-year senior*
6. **ACT’S:** “I wish I would have taken the ACT earlier.”

–Yancey Maldonado, 3-year senior

7. **DISCIPLINE (AND FAFSA):** “Discipline yourself on how to use your time wisely, especially if you have a free period. It’s easy to go take a nap or watch Netflix, but I’ve learned I’d rather get my homework done during a free period than at midnight. Also FILL OUT YOUR FAFSA ASAP. It’s a pain to fill out but it’s super important.” –*Sydney Michalenko, 4-year senior*
8. **FIND YOUR CIRCLE:** “You don’t have to be friends with everyone. Four quarters individually are worth as much as 100 pennies.” –*Faith Paden, 4-year senior*
9. **THE PRESSURE:** “That there is more pressure than you can handle by yourself.” –*Logan Vega, 2-year senior*

Thankfully, no matter what uncertainties we face in the future, we know we can trust in God to lead us in His plan. “*I say this because I know the plans that I have for you.*” *This message is from the Lord. “I have good plans for you. I don’t plan to hurt you. I plan to give you hope and a good future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11 ERV

-- Faith Paden; photo supplied

COMMENTARY

Even a Parking Lot Needs Prayer » In 1999, a small rural congregation in West Virginia set out to build a new church building. An elderly member had willed a piece of land, so all the members had to do was raise the money for the building itself. They even did much of the construction labor with their own hands. In less time than they expected, the building was finished.

About that time, the chair of the county building committee appeared on the scene and announced to the pastor that the church had not met the county guidelines for the number of parking spaces needed, and before they could receive an occupancy permit, the parking would need to be substantially expanded.

Problem: No additional land. The property on the street side of the building was flat, the property to the rear of the building was steep and unusable. The church made its appeal for an exception. The county stood firm. The church appealed the appeal. The county wouldn't budge. The word "impasse" comes to mind.

The little congregation had prayed its way through the project to this point; now their praying took on a sense of desperation. They were out of visible options.

After a late-night prayer vigil, the pastor stood before his

congregation and announced that they could return to their homes with an attitude of trust because he had the sense God was able to lead them out of this seeming dead end.

The next week, the pastor was on the site prayer-walking the grounds and asking God for wisdom when a pick-up drove in and approached the pastor's car. The driver stepped out of the truck and engaged the pastor in conversation. Seems he was the foreman in a construction project some distance away and they were building a shopping mall. There was a swale area on the property where they needed to do some major backfill.

"We've noticed the rocky embankment behind your building and we'd like to offer to remove it. In return, we'll level the area, then pave it and stripe it for parking. The only condition is we need to get started right away because we need to keep our project on schedule," the foreman said.

May I respectfully suggest a couple of questions? Can God do that? Well, if He can hang the moon, can He come up with someone who can haul off a few truckloads of dirt? If He can provide a sidewalk where there had been only a seabed, can He provide a paved surface to park a few cars? Final question: Is God honored when we trust Him?

-- Don Jacobsen

UPCOMING ORDINATIONS/COMMISSIONING

LeeLee Dart	March 9	The Adventure
Daniel Birai	March 23	Fort Collins

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Casper Church	Sabbath, March 30
Denver South Church	Sunday, March 31 (new)

Grand Junction Church	Sabbath, April 6
Pinon Hills Church	Sunday, April 7

Campion Church	Sabbath, April 13 (new)
Colorado Springs Central Church	Sunday, April 14

All Town Hall meetings begin at 6 p.m.

CAMP MEETINGS

Native American -- La Vida Mission, April 26-28, Speaker: Ed Barnett

NE Colorado -- June 7-8, Speaker: Dan Jackson

Cowboy -- Location: Uncompaghre National Forest near Silver Jack Reservoir, July 10-14, Speakers: Ron Price/Ed

Barnett

Wyoming -- Casper, July 16-20; Speakers: Ron Halvorsen Jr. (adults); Joe Martin (youth).

Western Slope -- Montrose -- July 31-August 4, Speaker: Pastor Rodney Palmer, undergrad teacher at Andrews University

Hispanic Camp Meeting--Glacier View Ranch --August 30-September 2.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Twin Peaks Church » Dr. Neil Nedley's "Optimize Your Brain" program is being hosted by Twin Peaks Adventist Church (9696 Paschal Drive, Louisville, CO 80027) on Monday evenings from 6 - 8 p.m., **March 11 - April 22**. This program is designed to maximize your intellectual and emotional intelligence in the areas of brain nutrition, thought and character development, and relationship skills. The \$99 per person cost (\$225 retail value) includes these resources: "Optimize Your Brain" workbook, DAAT Emotional Quotient (EQ) Assessments, Brain Enhancing Music CD, and a light, nutritious meal each evening. Registration required. Call 720-890-3767 for more information.

Adventist Health Services » Considering a career in healthcare? Come to our Open House Wednesday **March 13** from 4-7 p.m. to find out if AdventHealth University, Denver is the place for you! We offer degrees in Radiography, Nursing, and Sonography, and we will have faculty and students available in our labs to talk to you about the programs. We hope you can join us. RSVP today at www.ahu.edu/DenverExpo.

Franktown Church » Come, hear the captivating story of how God worked to transform one young man's life and how He can transform your life as well. *Madman to Missionary, The Testimony of John Baxter* will be shared at the Franktown Church at 7 p.m., Friday evening, March 15. The church is located at 905 CO-83, Franktown, CO 80116.

Children's Ministries Training » Children's Ministries training and certification, offered in English and Spanish, will take place **March 15-16** at Westminster Hispanic Church. Friday's meeting runs from 7 - 8:45 p.m.; Saturday's training runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Norma Rocio Rojas is the guest speaker for the English class. Ana Maria Benzaquen is the guest speaker for the Spanish class. Both are official trainers from the North American Division of Children's Ministries. Register at

<https://www.rmcsda.org/childrens-ministries>. Registration

deadline is March 9.

For more information, email Patty Rivera at pattyr@rmcsda.org.

The church is located at 7979 Meade Street, Westminster CO 80030.

Littleton Church » Financial Peace University is coming to Littleton Adventist Church. Whether you're just starting out financially or money issues are weighing you down, or you are winning with money and want to do better, FPU is for everyone! We learn that by handling money God's way according to biblical principles, HOPE and PEACE are available for all of us.

March 18 - May 13 (9 weeks)

6:30 - 8:15 p.m. Mondays at Littleton Church (childcare provided)

Check out this video to hear from people like us who took

FPU: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=102&v=0CxxJ7_Shf4

Contact danielwarner2@gmail.com to register.

Vacation Bible School Training » A free VBS training will take place on **March 16** at Westminster Hispanic Church from 5-6:30 p.m. *Jamit Kingdom* will give kids the opportunity to have fun exploring an African savanna while making friends and learning how we are all part of God's big family. Register by visiting <https://www.rmcsda.org/childrens-ministries>. Westminster Hispanic Church is located at 7979 Meade Street, Westminster 80030.

MHA Upper School Science MINI Lab » Mile High Academy invites your 8th graders and high schoolers to a Science Open House that will inspire young people in the Science area of STEM. From 2 - 3:30 p.m. on **March 19**, students will collaborate on projects and learn together as they work in the lab. Our strong science program will take your high schooler into the college of their choice. We want to share our experienced teachers and students in a collaborative and exciting way with students who have a passion for science. Contact Agape Hammond at ahammond@milehighacademy.org to RSVP.

Watch - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtTZYU-Y_8

Littleton Church » Lucile Claridge will be honored by the Littleton Church on the occasion of her 100th birthday on Sunday, March 24, from 2-4 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Lucile was a charter member of the Littleton church. She

drives her car to church every Sabbath morning and plays the piano for the Cradle Roll Sabbath School division the first two Sabbaths of every month. Along with her late husband, Wally, Lucile was a member of the old Central Church in downtown Denver. In 1962, they were part of a group who caught the vision of planting a church in Littleton. Wally and Lucile worked tirelessly and gave sacrificially to see that dream come to fruition. During the intervening years, Lucile has filled many positions of responsibility in the church--too many to list. She has worked with and been a friend of many of the members of other churches in the Denver area. Littleton would like for all these friends to help celebrate Lucile's life of service on March 24.

Rocky Mountain Music Festival » Students in grades 5-8 are invited to participate in Campion Academy's annual Rocky Mountain Music Festival **March 23-24** featuring choir, handbell choir, and a string orchestra. Don't miss this opportunity to join together with other young musicians across our Union to further hone your musical talents and join together to praise God. The deadline for online registration is Friday, March 1. [Register for Music Fest](#)

Vista Ridge Academy Annual Scholarship Gala » You are cordially invited to Vista Ridge Academy's 1st Annual Scholarship Gala on **March 28**. A welcome reception begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by a program and live auction. Tickets for an individual are \$50; for a couple, \$75. Please purchase tickets by March 15 by either contacting the school office at 303-828-4944 or sending an email to mbartulec@vistaridge.org. Be sure to designate any dietary concerns. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Scholarship Fund. Formal attire, please.

The Mountains are Calling! » All women and teen girls (13-17) are invited to attend *Cozy Mountain Lodge Women's Retreat* **April 6-7** at Hampton Inn in Buffalo, Wyoming. For more information and registration, go to www.rmcsda.org/women.

Academy Days at Campion Academy » Are you or someone you know interested in potentially attending Campion Academy? Academy Days is designed to give prospective 7th-11th grade students the opportunity to visit classes, stay a night in the dorm, eat cafeteria food, tour the campus, make some new friends and just get a feel for academy life.

This year's Academy Days is scheduled for **April 12-13**. All

visiting local students are asked to arrive on Friday, April 12 at 8:00 a.m. Students traveling from a distance are asked to arrive on Thursday, April 11 between 6-8 p.m.

“He knows me by name” is the theme and will feature Virtual Reality station games, an ice cream outing, awesome mixers, games and tons of food. Can't wait to meet you! [Academy Days Registration Page](#)

Revive Us Again Prayer Conference » Please join us **April 19-21** for the *Revive Us Again Prayer Conference* featuring Pavel Goia, author of *One Miracle After Another*, editor of Ministry magazine, associate Ministerial Secretary of NAD, and great advocate of prayer. You can find more information and registration availability at www.rmcsda.org/prayer or by contacting deeannb@rmcsda.org

The Beach is Calling! » All women and teen girls (13-17) are invited to attend our *Anchored in Christ Women's Retreat* **April 26-28** at Glacier View Ranch. We'll have workshops and gatherings especially for teens sponsored by the Youth Department. Don't miss it! Follow the link at www.rmcsda.org/women to register.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Voice of Prophecy Opening » The VOP is looking for a full-time producer for their children's program DiscoveryMountain. They are looking for someone with exceptional organizational, communication and people skills with a foundational technical knowledge and a desire to serve God. The full job description and a link to apply are here: <http://www.adventistmediaministries.com/departmental-associate-director-producer/>

Glacier View Ranch » GVR is seeking a qualified applicant to fill a full-time, food service coordinator position in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Applicants should have a passion for camp ministry, ability to manage a kitchen, and experience cooking for large groups (200+) in a commercial/cafeteria environment. For additional information regarding job duties and position requirements and information about how to apply, see the following posting on the RMC website: <http://www.rmcsda.org/hr-foodservicecoordinator>. You can also contact Dan Hansen, Camp Ministries Director, for more information.
Mobile: (989)745-3888
Office: (303)459-0771
E-mail: info@glacierviewranch.com

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

***NewsNuggets* Archive Now Online »**

The *NewsNuggets* archive is now online, and can be found at <https://www-rmcsda-org.netadvent.org/newsnuggets-archive>.

FROM THE EDITOR

We want to share your news -- Change is a part of the communication age. With online media experiencing constant evolution, the *NewsNuggets* is also experiencing an increased access from our readers and contributors. We will continue to encourage news sharing from our churches, institutions, and individual church members.

In order to make our eNewsletter accommodate an increased volume of announcements, our editorial work proposes to present information in a more efficient approach, ensuring that all timely promotions and announcements be included in a weekly, Friday release of *NewsNuggets*. **Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday. Please send all your submissions to nuggets@rmcsda.org.**

Thank you for your contribution, but also comments, as *NewsNuggets* continues to serve the church in an efficient and effective way.

NOTE: Questions are being raised regarding guidelines for the Announcement section of the RMC *NewsNuggets* newsletter. After a review of the guidelines, the following few points should be considered when sending announcements or promotional materials:

- The newsletter has been established primarily for news sharing within the conference, though selected general church news stories are also considered for publication.
- The primary readership of the newsletter are church members within the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- When submitting an announcement, consider that local Sabbath events may be drawing members from other local churches.
- Promoting evangelistic meetings in *NewsNuggets* is not attracting potential attendees for whom the meetings are primarily advertised.
- Due to space constraints, *NewsNuggets* will not publish posters and other large photos or images. However, information from the text will be used.
- Announcements will not be repeated more than twice, and they should be concise. Web page links or phone numbers

should be provided for additional information.

We are inviting all correspondents and contributors to follow a general Adventist News Network *Style Guide*, including glossary. For guidelines,

see:<http://news.adventist.org/styleguide/>

--Editor

Share the NewsNuggets with your congregation » Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: www.bit.ly/RMCnews

Members can follow the link to sign up for weekly news and to keep up-to-date on what's happening around the Rocky Mountain Conference.

**Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement
Tagline:**

Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known

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